

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A process for production of rods composed of transparent plastics via extrusion of a plastics molding composition, characterized in that an extruded plastics molding composition is divided and plastics molding composition 1 is used to extrude a plastics tube, and the previously separated molten plastics molding composition 2 is used in parallel to fill the freshly extruded tube, about 20 cm after entry into a vacuum tank calibrator, and the newly formed plastics molding is further processed as in conventional tube extrusion.

Claim 2 (Original): The process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that plastics rods composed of uncolored polymethyl methacrylate whose transmittance is at least τ_{D65} 85% are produced.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 1~~[[2]]~~, characterized in that the plastics composition has been colored.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A round rod, produced by a process as claimed in ~~claims 1-3~~ claim 1.

Claim 5 (Original): An apparatus for production of round rods, characterized in that an extruded round rod of relatively small diameter in an inner extrusion die in parallel with an extruded tube of relatively large diameter using an outer extrusion die are introduced without contact, after discharge from the extruder, in a calibrator where they fuse to one another after about 20 cm.

Claim 6 (Original): The apparatus for production of round rods as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the tube is cooled with stabilization of shape prior to the fusion to the round rod.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The ~~use of~~ method of using round rods in the fitting-out of exhibition stands and of shops, in construction work, in the lighting industry, in the furniture industry, and in advertising technology.